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ends (Fig. 9, k). Bodkin-like bone points are used as head scratchers and also to disentangle the warp in weaving (Fig. 14, g). Women often carry them thrust into their hair, but they are not ornaments and are rarely decorated. Other long bone points are occasionally used as meat forks. The jawbones of oxen are often used in mat making, to smooth and polish the fabric (Fig. 12, g).

Bone is shaped with knives while still fresh and polished like horn. Both horn and bone objects are sometimes decorated with series of small incised circles, each circle having a dot in the center. These are made with a slender, forked, iron drill which is shaped like a heavy needle with the tip of the eye broken off. The drill is set in a wooden shaft about a foot long. The shaft is twirled between the palms. One point of the drill makes the central dot, while the other revolves about it and incises the circle. When on bone, the circles are usually rubbed with soot, to heighten the effect.

Hide is used for sandals, thongs, a few pouches and knife sheaths, and for skull caps. Of these, only the sandals are common. There is no tanning of any sort. The hide is roughly fleshed with a small knife, but the hair is usually left on. Sandal soles are cut from dry rawhide, the flesh side being worn next the foot. Thongs for attachment pass through holes in the edges of the sole and are knotted beneath (Fig. 11, b). Caps are made from the skin of an ox hump, dried over a form (Fig. 11, h). Pouches are usually rectangular, like boxes. They are made by drawing the fresh hide over a block of wood, folding it, and sewing the ends together. When it has dried, the block is removed but the stiffness of the hide keeps it in shape (Fig. 11, a, d). Knife sheaths are made in the same way.

The Zafimaniry occasionally tooled their knife sheaths and small pouches. The hide was first dried, then soaked in water until the hair could be rubbed off with the fingers. It was then bent over a wooden form, flesh side in, and sewed. Lastly, designs were pressed into the surface with a blunt point of hard wood or bone. A pouch and sheath decorated in this way are illustrated (Figs. 5, a; 11, g). The sheath may be of Betsileo manufacture. This type of decoration is now obsolete.

MATTING AND BASKETRY

Mats and baskets are the commonest of all Tanala manufactures. Every woman is expected to make those used by her own household. A bride spends the month before her marriage in making a supply, including one especially fine mat which she presents to her parents-

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FIG. 12. Mats and Baskets. a, Small-necked Basket; b, Sock-shaped Basket; c, Large-necked Basket; d, Section of Sleeping Mat; e, Pouch Covered with Braid; f, Covered Basket; g, Ox Jaw for Polishing Mats; h, Traveling Basket.